Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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R 051104Z MAR 76 FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4373 INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652:XGDS-1 TAGS: PFOR, CE SUBJECT: GSL DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON NON-ALIGNED VISITORS

- 1. FOLLOWING MARCH 4 DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR ON ANOTHER MATTER, (SEPTEL), DEPUTY MINISTEROF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, LAKSHMAN JAYODODY TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON VARIOUS RECENT HIGH-LEVEL VISITORS TO COLOMBO WHO HAVE COME PRIMARILY TO DISCUSS NON-ALIGNED MATTERS.
- 2. NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT: JAYAKODY
 COMMENTED THAT NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER, PROF. KRISHNA
 RAJ ARYAL'S VISIT DURING THIRD WEEK OF FEBRUARY, WHICH
 WENT ALMOST UNNOTED. ARYAL DID NOT APPEAR TO BE
 CLOSELY ACQUAINTED WITH DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN NON-ALIGNED
 MOVEMENT, BUT HIS VISIT PRESENTED GSL WITH OPPORTUNITY
 TO DISCUSS SOME OF MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES. IN GENERAL,
 JAYAKODY SAID, THERE WAS BROAD SIMILARITY OF VIEWS
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BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. REGIONAL PROBLEMS WERE ALSO

DISCUSSED AND NEPALESE CONTINUED TOEVIDENCE CONCERN ABOUT RE-

LATIONS WITH INDIA WITH PARTICULAR RESIDUAL SENSITIVITY OVER SIKKIM TAKEOVER AND OVER NEPAL'S LANDLOCKED STATUS. STRESSING THAT BOTH SRI LANKA AND NEPAL ARE SMALL COUNTRIES ADJACENT TO INDIAN GIANT, ARYAL PROPOSED THAT EFFORTS BE MADE TO DEVELOP CLOSER TRADE AND CULTURAL TIES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES WHICH, AT PRESENT, ARE VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT.

3. IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER: TALKS DURING FEBRUARY 26-29 VISIT BY IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER DR. SAADOUN HAMMADI WERE DOMINATED BY SRI LANKA'S JUSTICE AND FINANCE MINISTER FELIX DIAS BANDARANAIKE. ACCORDING TO JAYAKODY, BANDARANAIKE, WHO DID MOST OF THE TALKING. OVERWHELMED HAMMADI BY DRAWING ON HIS EXPERIENCES AS CLOSE ADVISER TO PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE THROUGH FOUR PREVIOUS NON-ALIGNED SUMMITS. IN MARCH 1 PRESS CONFERENCE, HAMMADI REPEATED IRAQI NON-ALIGNED INITIATIVES INCLUDING PROPOSAL FOR PERMANENT SECRETARIAT. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THIS IN JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED AT END OF VISIT INDICATING CEYLONESE REFUSED TO AGREE TO PROPOSAL ABOUT WHICH THEY HAVE PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS. JOINT STATEMENT INDICATED GENERAL AGREEMENT ON MOST OTHER NON-ALIGNED TOPICS. HOWEVER, JAYAKODY SAID IRAQIS HAD SOUGHT REFERENCE TO ZIONISM AS FORM OF RACISM BUT THAT GSL INSISTED ON ADHERING TO ITS OWN LANGUAGE. IN END, STATEMENT CARRIED RECITATION OF IRAQI VIEWS ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE AND CONCLUDED BY SAYING "TWO SIDES AGREED THAT JUST SOLUTION TO PROBLEM LIES IN ENSURING FULL LIBERATION OF ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AND REGAINING BY PALESTINIAN PEOPLE OF THEIR FULL NATIONAL RIGHTS."

4.YUGOSLAV INFORMATIONMINISTER: M. BERBEROVIC, YUGOSLAV INFORMATION MINISTER, ARRIVED MARCH 3 REPORTEDLY TO DISCUSS PRESS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUMMIT AS WELL AS PROPOSAL TOESTABLISH NON-ALIGNED NEWS AGENCY. JAYAKODY SAID BERBEROVIC HAD MET WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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OPPOSTION TROTSKYITE LEADERS AND, BECAUSE TROTSKY-ITIES ARE WELL DISPOSED TOWARD YUGOSLAVIA, THEY HAD AGREED TO LOOK MORE FAVORABLY ON NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT, WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN CRITICIZING AS TOO COSTLY. LATER, FORMER TROTSKYITE PLANTATIONS MINISTER, COLVIN DE SILVA, ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENT SUPPORTING SUMMIT.

5. AMBASSADOR TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MEETING WITH

JAYAKODY TO DISCUSS U.S. POSITION ON PUERTO RICO, MIDDLE EAST AND KOREA.

ON PUERTO RICO , JAYAKODY SAID HE THOUGHT BEST STANCE FOR GSL WOULD BE TO SUPPORT PRINCIPLE OF SELF DETERMINATION.

6. RE KOREA, JAYAKODY SAID CEYLONESE WERE GETTING
FED UP WITH NORTH KOREANS COMING AROUND AND DEMANDING
RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF RESIDENT REPRESENTATION. HE
SAID HE HAD HAD TO TELL NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION
LEADER HO DAN LAST MONTH THAT GSL COULD DO NOTHING
UNTIL CURRENT FOREIGN EXCHANGE FRAUD TRIAL, IN WHICH
NORTH KOREANS HAVE BEEN IMPLICATED, IS OVER. HE
PERSONALLY BELIEVED SOUTH KOREA SHOULD BE GIVEN EQUAL
STATUS WITH NORTH KOREA BUT NOTED THAT GSL MIGHT
COME UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM ALGERIANS TO PERMIT
NORTH KOREANS TO RE-ESTABLISH RESIDENT EMBASSY IN
COLOMBO BEFORE SUMMIT.
VAN HOLLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COLOMB00847

Document Number: 1976COLOMB00847
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a **Executive Order:** X1 Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760085-0296

From: COLOMBO Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760392/aaaadctg.tel Line Count: 135 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION NEA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: BoyleJA

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 14 MAY 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GSL DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON NON-ALIGNED VISITORS TAGS: PFOR, CE
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006